IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: NAKAMURA, Keiji et al. Conf.:

Appl. No.: New Group:

Filed: September 19, 2002 Examiner:

For: OBJECTIVE LENS-DRIVING APPARATUS

L E T T E R

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

September 19, 2002

Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 119 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.55(a), the applicant(s) hereby claim(s) the right of priority based on the following application(s):

Country Application No. Filed

JAPAN 2001-345782 November 12, 2001

A certified copy of the above-noted application(s) is(are) attached hereto.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fee required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By Michael K. Mutter, #29,680

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attachment

1190-0557P

MKM/nv